



XI. *Contributions to the knowledge of African Phytophagous Coleoptera.* Part II. By MARTIN JACOBY, F.E.S.

[Read Feb. 6th, 1895 (continued from page 179).]

HALTICINÆ.

*Lactica* (?) *punctato-sulcata*, sp. n.

Black, above testaceous as well as the basal joints of the antennæ and the legs; thorax pale fulvous, closely and strongly punctured, transversely sulcate; elytra testaceous, strongly punctured in subgeminate rows, the interstices longitudinally costate. Length, 2-2½ lines.

Head broad, impunctate at the vertex, obscurely fulvous, the frontal elevations oblong, strongly raised, the carina blunt and short, apical joint of palpi slender, pointed, piceous; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, much shorter in the female, the lower three or four joints fulvous, the rest black, the third joint slightly longer than the fourth, nearly all the joints widened at the apex in the male; in the female the joints are much shorter, the second, third, and fourth are equal and short, and the basal joint is fulvous only; thorax nearly twice as broad as long, rather convex, the sides rounded at the middle, narrowly margined, the anterior angles oblique, produced outwards into a blunt tooth, the surface closely and deeply punctured, pale or darker fulvous, the base with a deep transverse, slightly sinuate sulcus which ends at some distance from the lateral margin; scutellum piceous; elytra paler than the thorax, closely and deeply punctured in double rows, each row being divided by a longitudinal costa, the interstices also closely and finely punctate; underside black, legs fulvous or testaceous, the tibiæ widened at the apex and sulcate, all armed with a spur, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following three joints together, claws appendiculate, the anterior coxal cavities open; the male with the last abdominal segment incised at each side, the median lobe broad.

*Hab.* South Africa, Rondeburg.

I have only provisionally placed this insect in *Lactica* until similarly structured species may be found; it has only the transverse thoracic groove and the open coxal

cavities in common with this genus. The structure of the antennæ, quite different in the sexes, and the almost punctate-striate and costate elytra justify the creation of a new genus for this species.

*Haltica semiaurata*, sp. n.

Obscurely fulvous, the elytra with a slight metallic-golden lustre, thorax impunctate, the basal sulcus straight; elytra very closely and finely punctured, with traces of longitudinal sulcations. Length, 2 lines.

Head dark fulvous, impunctate, very deeply transversely grooved between the eyes, the frontal tubercles broad, ill-defined, the carina strongly raised; antennæ fulvous, extending to the middle of the elytra, the third joint very slightly longer than the fourth; thorax scarcely twice as broad as long, the lateral margins straight, the anterior angles oblique, the posterior ones acute, the surface without punctures, obscurely fulvous, the base with a narrow and straight transverse sulcus; scutellum broad, its apex rounded; elytra dark fulvous, finely and closely punctured, clothed with extremely short golden pubescence, giving it a slight metallic appearance, the disc with some obsolete longitudinal grooves; underside and legs fulvous, the last abdominal segment roundly produced at the middle, with a central longitudinal groove.

*Hab.* Natal, Maritzburg.

The coloration of this species is peculiar and unique, as far as I know, amongst the representatives of the genus, which are nearly all of a metallic-blue colour. The present insect gives the impression of being immature, but the two specimens I have before me agree entirely in every particular, and their elytra are of hard texture; these are fulvous, but appear quite golden in certain lights.

*Haltica cuprea*, sp. n.

Bluish-black, above reddish-cupreous; thorax very closely and finely punctured, the basal sulcus distinct and straight; elytra as closely but more strongly punctured than the thorax. Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head impunctate at the vertex, obliquely grooved between the eyes, the latter with some deep punctures near the inner margins, frontal tubercles broad, rather round, carina broad, with a longitudinal groove, clypeus greenish, palpi black; antennæ extending to about the middle of the elytra, black, the lower joints with a bluish gloss, third and fourth joints equal; thorax twice as broad

as long, the lateral margins slightly rounded at the middle, anterior angles obliquely thickened, the basal sulcus not extending quite to the sides, the surface extremely finely and closely punctured throughout, reddish-cupreous with brassy reflection; scutellum dark blue, broad; elytra convex, more strongly punctured than the thorax, the apex somewhat pointed, the extreme sutural and lateral margins greenish; underside and legs nearly black, the sides of the breast and the femora more or less metallic-cupreous or bluish, clothed with grey pubescence.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury, also West Africa (coll. Jacoby).

Distinguished from most of its allies by the entirely cupreous colour of the upper surface.

*Haltica cyanicollis*, sp. n.

Metallic-blue; thorax scarcely perceptibly punctured; elytra cupreous, finely and closely punctured, the interstices finely granulate. Length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head metallic-blue, the vertex with some deep strigæ at each side, the space near the eyes punctured, frontal elevations broadly trigonate, carina acute, labrum and palpi black; antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, bluish-black, third joint smaller than the fourth; thorax twice as broad as long, bright metallic-blue, the lateral margins straight, anterior angles oblique, the basal sulcus distinct, scarcely extending to the margins, the surface microscopically punctured with an obsolete short transverse depression at each side anteriorly; scutellum bluish; elytra extremely closely and finely but more distinctly punctured than the thorax, reddish-cupreous; underside and legs metallic-blue, clothed with whitish pubescence.

*Hab.* Natal, Newcastle.

Larger than *H. cuprea*, and differently coloured.

*Sphæroderma discoidalis*, sp. n.

Fulvous, the apical joints of the antennæ and the legs piceous or black; thorax finely punctured, the disc piceous; elytra very closely punctate-striate, the disc, in shape of a broad band, piceous. Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  line.

*VAR.* Thorax and elytra entirely fulvous.

Head impunctate, obliquely grooved between the eyes, frontal tubercles flat, carina also flattened; antennæ short, the lower four joints fulvous, the rest black, the first joint elongate, the second

and third short, equal, terminal joints thickened; thorax more than twice as broad as long, widened at the middle, narrowed in front, the sides nearly straight, anterior angles obliquely thickened, the disc convex, rather closely and finely punctured, the margins and the sides nearly impunctate; scutellum small, impunctate; elytra with closely-approached irregular rows of punctures which are a little stronger than those of the thorax, the space in front of the lateral margins impunctate; legs piceous or black, tarsi obscure fulvous.

*Hab.* Natal.

Evidently allied to *S. lateritia*, Dahl., but with the antennæ much shorter and the punctuation very distinct, not obsolete; the piceous colour of the thorax is not well defined, and is only visible near the base. That of the elytra, however, forms a broad longitudinal sutural band of ovate shape, extending outwards as far as the middle of the elytra, and downwards to two-thirds their length. In the variety the piceous colour is entirely absent.

*Aphthona natalensis*, sp. n.

Black, the head, thorax, and the tibiæ more or less fulvous; thorax finely but not closely punctured; elytra black, opaque, rugose-punctate. Length, 1 line.

Head impunctate, fulvous, the frontal tubercles broadly transverse, carina short and broad, labrum black as well as the palpi; antennæ rather robust, scarcely extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the lower four joints pale fulvous, the second and third joints short, equal, the following joints rather strongly triangularly widened: thorax twice as broad as long, of equal width, the lateral and posterior margins rounded, anterior angles not produced, the surface extremely finely punctured and minutely granulate, the punctures not very closely placed, fulvous; scutellum black; elytra rather broad and flat, very closely and rather strongly punctured, black, opaque, the interstices finely wrinkled; underside and the femora black, tibiæ and tarsi fulvous, the anterior tibiæ without, the posterior one with, a long spine, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following two joints together, claw-joint black.

*Hab.* Natal.

*Sebæthe natalensis*, sp. n.

Black, the lower joints of the antennæ, the head, thorax and the tibiæ partly, fulvous, elytra metallic dark violaceous, finely punctured. Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  line.



Head impunctate, fulvous, the frontal elevations broad, transverse, carina acutely raised, antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the lower three joints fulvous, the basal joint rather long, the second slightly shorter than the third joint; thorax nearly three times broader than long, the sides rounded, with a narrow margin, the anterior angles slightly thickened, the surface with a few minute punctures, rather convex; scutellum triangular, black; elytra widened posteriorly, metallic-violaceous, finely and rather closely punctured, the underside and the posterior legs black, the four anterior ones more or less fulvous; prosternum very distinct.

*Hab.* Natal; Museum, Cape Town, and my collection.

*Sebæthe tibialis*, sp. n.

Flavous, the antennæ (the basal joints excepted) and the tibiæ black; thorax sparingly punctured; elytra closely and finely punctate. Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  line.

Head impunctate, the frontal tubercles small, not much raised, carina blunt, clypeus with a central ridge; antennæ long, the lower two joints fulvous, the others black, second joint thickened, scarcely smaller than the third, this latter slightly smaller than the fourth joint, the following nearly equal; thorax three times broader than long, the sides strongly rounded, the anterior angles not produced, slightly thickened, the surface with some very fine punctures irregularly distributed, the sides with an ill-defined longitudinal groove and the base with a similar curved transverse impression, only visible in certain lights; scutellum triangular; elytra more closely and strongly punctured than the thorax, the apex nearly smooth, epipleuræ broad, posterior femora strongly incrassate, fulvous, their apex and the tibiæ nearly black, metatarsus of the posterior legs as long as the following three joints together.

*Hab.* Natal.

Smaller than *S. torrida*, Baly, and of a different system of coloration.

*Mantura quadriplagiata*, sp. n.

Ovate, black; antennæ, tibiæ and tarsi fulvous; thorax impunctate, with two perpendicular grooves; elytra punctate-striate, a subquadrate spot on the shoulder and a rounded one near the apex, fulvous. Length,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  line.

Head without frontal tubercles and carina, black, the sides above the eyes with a narrow oblique ridge, clypeus broad, palpi

fulvous; antennæ extending beyond the base of the thorax, fulvous, the apical joint fuscous, the second and the following joints of nearly equal length, slightly and gradually thickened, rather robust; thorax more than twice as broad as long, the sides strongly rounded, the anterior angles slightly thickened, not produced, the surface convex, black with a bluish gloss, extremely minutely and closely punctured, the base with a perpendicular groove at each side; scutellum ovate; elytra regularly and strongly punctate-striate, the interstices sparingly and finely punctured, black with a metallic-greenish or bluish gloss, the shoulders with an elongate subquadrate fulvous spot, extending nearly to the middle of the length of the elytra and inwards to the third row of punctures; another rounded fulvous spot is placed near the apex; femora blackish; the coxæ, tibiæ, and tarsi fulvous, tibiæ with a small spine.

*Hab.* Natal.

This species, which was also obtained by Herr Holub in Africa, is of a less elongate shape than most of its congeners, with which it, however, has all the structural characters in common.

*Blepharida inornata*, sp. n.

Underside obscurely fulvous, upperside flavous, the terminal joints of the antennæ fuscous, head strongly punctured; thorax nearly impunctate; elytra flavous with deep, brown, punctured striæ, without spots, the interstices at the sides convex. Length, 3 lines.

Head strongly and more or less closely punctured, a small space above the base of the antennæ at each side impunctate, labrum flavous; antennæ only extending to the base of the thorax, fulvous or flavous, the terminal joints darker, the second joint scarcely shorter than the third and following joints, the last ones thickened; thorax nearly three times broader than long, the sides straight at the base, obliquely narrowed in front before the middle, but without forming a distinct angle, narrowly margined, anterior margins slightly thickened, not produced, the surface very finely and sparingly punctured or nearly impunctate, with a short oblique groove at the sides of the anterior margin, not extending to the middle, obsoletely stained with some fulvous markings at the sides and middle; scutellum small, piceous; elytra flavous with regular rows of deep fulvous punctures, of which the second and third and the fourth and fifth rows are joined at the base, while at the other end, the fourth row unites with the seventh, and the fifth with the sixth row; the interstices are impunctate, without spots, and convex at the sides to a small degree; underside and legs fulvous, closely punctured

South Africa, without particular locality (from the Cape Town Museum).

The entirely unspotted elytra and nearly impunctate thorax separates this species from any of its allies; there is also an entire absence of an angle at the sides of the thorax which is often visible in other species. Two specimens are before me which agree in every particular.

*Blepharida partita*, sp. n.

Obscurely fulvous, terminal joints of the antennæ black; thorax with yellow spots at sides and middle; elytra black, with numerous flavous round spots divided longitudinally by a subsutural and submarginal smooth flavous stripe. Length, 4 lines.

Head fulvous, clothed with very short yellow pubescence, opaque, labrum flavous, the palpi slender; antennæ extending to the base of the elytra, fulvous, the last four or five joints black at the apex, slightly shorter than the preceding joints; thorax more than twice as broad as long, the lateral margins slightly rounded at the middle, the angles, especially the posterior ones, acutely produced, the surface with a deep semicircular groove anteriorly sending off an obliquely shaped groove at each side towards the middle, the sides deeply and closely punctured, the disc with rows of finer punctures, dark fulvous with four longitudinal rows of yellow spots at the sides and middle, placed rather irregularly; three other spots are situated within the semicircular groove and a single one is placed between the inner rows of punctures anteriorly; scutellum fulvous; elytra deeply punctate-striate, black, with two rows of round flavous spots placed on the first and second interstices, the third one flavous, without spots, followed by four other rows of spots, a broader unspotted interstice, and another row of spots near the lateral margin, the latter itself as well as the elytral epipleuræ fulvous, with some small spots at the extreme outer edge; underside and legs dark fulvous, clothed with very short silvery pubescence.

*Hab.* Zambezi River; Cape Town collection, and in my own.

There will not be much difficulty in recognizing this well-marked species, which has the elytral spots separated by two narrow, smooth, longitudinal, somewhat raised stripes from the base to the apex, which join near the apex; the outer one of them is double the width of the subsutural one, and has a row of deep punctures.

*Blepharida* (*Podontia*) *reticulata*, Baly = *B. holubi*, Jac.

Having lately compared Baly's type with my species of *B. holubi*, I have come to the conclusion that the two insects must be considered identical, although slightly varying in the shape of the spots, etc. Baly placed his species in *Podontia*, where it cannot find its place on account of the straight base of the prosternum, and this made me overlook the species, *Blepharida* being the proper genus for its incorporation.

*Blepharida natalensis*, sp. n.

Pale flavous, the apical joints of the antennæ black; thorax with two short black punctured stripes anteriorly; elytra deeply punctate-striate, black, with numerous small flavous spots, the interspaces at the apex costate. Length, 3 lines.

VAR. Elytra nearly without spots.

Head pale flavous, finely punctured near the eyes, with two sinuate deep longitudinal grooves in front of the latter, and some spaces of very short silvery pubescence, palpi slender; antennæ extending a little beyond the thorax, the lower four joints flavous, the others black; thorax nearly three times broader than long, the lateral margin subangulate before the middle, the anterior one concave, its angles thickened, posterior margin produced at the middle, the sides sinuate, the surface with some very minute punctures, pale flavous; from the anterior margin a short oblique black and deeply punctured stripe extends to the middle at each side and a small fovea is placed near the middle of the base; scutellum small, fulvous; elytra with deep rows of punctures, the interstices costate at the apex, variegated with numerous small flavous spots and black intervening transverse bands, forming a network; near the anterior portion of the lateral margin some larger elongate yellow spots are seen and the elytral epipleuræ are also spotted with yellow and black; underside and legs flavous, clothed with very short silvery pubescence.

*Hab.* Natal and Delagoa Bay; Cape Town collection, and my own.

Larger than *B. reticulata*, Baly, much more elongate, and with an entirely differently coloured and sculptured thorax; the elytral pale spots are nearly all of round shape and are closely placed; the variety from Delagoa Bay at first sight looks totally different on account of

the elytral spots being almost absent except at the sides, where they are only just indicated, but the exactly similarly sculptured and coloured thorax, and every other structural character, and the general shape and size, agree entirely with the type.

*Crepidodera peringueyi*, sp. n.

Black, the head, basal joints of the antennæ, the thorax and the anterior legs fulvous; thorax impunctate with deep transverse and perpendicular sulci; elytra metallic-blue, distinctly punctate-striate, the interstices very minutely punctured. Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  line.

Head impunctate, frontal elevations small, carina short and broad, labrum black; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, the lower four joints fulvous, the others black, the second and the following two joints of equal length, the next slightly thickened; thorax twice as broad as long, the sides straight at the base, subangularly rounded before the middle, with a narrow margin, the surface rather convex, impunctate, with a deep transverse sulcus near the base, not extending to the sides, but bounded at that place by a deep but short perpendicular groove; scutellum black; elytra wider at the base than the thorax, metallic-blue, with rather deep and regular rows of punctures, the interstices with a single row of minute punctures, flat; underside and the four posterior legs black, the others fulvous; posterior tibiæ with a small spine, anterior cotyloid cavities closed.

The specimen before me has no particular locality attached, but is probably from the Cape.

*Chaetocnema longicornis*, sp. n.

Dark æneous, the antennæ excessively long, their basal joints fulvous, thorax transverse, very closely and strongly punctured, elytra strongly punctate-striate, the interstices sparingly punctured and wrinkled. Length,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  line.

Head finely transversely strigose at the vertex, rather strongly produced between the antennæ, the lower portion perpendicularly deflexed, with a strongly-raised central ridge extending between the antennæ upwards, the latter closely approached at the base, more than double as long as the body, black, the lower two joints and the base of the third fulvous, basal joint long and thickened, second one short, third joint the longest, fourth and fifth equal, the terminal joints longer and very thin; thorax twice as broad as long, the sides nearly straight, very little narrowed at the base, the anterior angles thickened, the surface finely granulate and



closely and strongly punctured, with an obsolete depression at each side near the base; elytra closely and strongly punctate-striate, the interstices finely rugose and punctured; legs very robust, piceous; the base of the tibiæ and the tarsi obscurely fulvous, intermediate tibiæ dilated at the apex into a tooth, posterior ones with a distinct tooth at the middle.

*Hab.* Natal.

This *Chætocnema*, of which a single apparently male specimen is before me, possesses the longest antennæ of any species of the genus known to me. The structure of the head is also peculiar. In the other sex the antennæ are probably shorter.

*Amphimela ornata*, sp. n.

Ovately-rounded, black, head and the basal joints of the antennæ fulvous; thorax transverse, piceous, impunctate; elytra very minutely punctured, flavous, the suture and three dentate transverse bands black, base of the tibiæ flavous. Length,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  lines.

Head fulvous, scarcely perceptibly punctured, without any frontal tubercles and carina, the sides near the eyes with a short oblique groove; the antennæ widely separated at the base, not extending to the middle of the elytra, the lower three and the apical joint fulvous, the others black, second joint thick, scarcely shorter than the third one; thorax three times broader than long, the sides nearly straight, the anterior angles strongly oblique, the posterior ones preceded by an oblique groove which extends upwards some distance near the lateral margins, the posterior margin broadly rounded, the surface extremely minutely punctured, piceous; scutellum broad, black, its apex rounded; elytra scarcely more strongly punctured than the thorax, flavous, the suture, a transverse band below the base, curving upwards at the shoulders and joined at its middle to another band, slightly wider and placed at the middle, as well as a third band near the apex enclosing a flavous spot, black; underside and legs black, the extreme base of the femora fulvous, the base of the tibiæ and the tarsi more or less flavous, posterior tibiæ mucronate, anterior ones unarmed, the former widened at the apex, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following two joints together; claws appendiculate, anterior coxal cavities closed.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury; Museum, Cape Town, and my collection.

This is the second African species of *Amphimela*

described, the other being an inhabitant of Abyssinia. It is possible that some specimens may occur in which the elytral black bands unite more or less, so as to leave six flavous spots of the ground-colour. In the specimen before me this is partly the case; the apical band only is isolated, although curving round at the apex and being joined to the suture; the first band extends upwards at the shoulder to the base, and joins the second band at its middle.

### GALERUCINÆ.

#### *Asbecesta pectoralis*, sp. n.

Black, the first three joints of the antennæ, the head, thorax, and legs fulvous; elytra metallic-blue, very closely and strongly punctured, the interstices slightly rugose. Length, 2 lines.

Head impunctate, reddish-fulvous, labrum and palpi black; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the basal three joints fulvous, third and fourth joints equal; thorax twice as broad as long, fulvous, the basal sulcus deep, slightly sinuate, more or less distinctly punctured as well as the anterior portion at the sides; scutellum black; elytra deeply and closely punctured, the interstices scarcely larger than the punctures; breast and abdomen, as well as the tarsi, black.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury; Cape Town Museum collection, and my own.

*A. pectoralis* is very closely allied to *A. abdominalis*, Jac., from Togo (Bismarcksburg), but differs in having only the three lower joints of the antennæ fulvous, the thorax more distinctly punctured, and the elytral punctuation deeper and more closely placed, as well as in the black scutellum and breast; in the female the elytral punctuation is still coarser, and a distinct longitudinal sulcus is seen at the sides of the elytra. In *A. abdominalis*, the black abdomen has a distinct metallic-blue lustre which in this species is absent.

#### *Asbecesta melanocephala*, sp. n.

Black, the lower four joints of the antennæ, the thorax and legs flavous; elytra metallic greenish-blue, deeply and closely punctured, tarsi black. Length, 2 lines.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury; my collection and Cape Town Museum.

Resembles very nearly *A. pectoralis*, but has an entirely black head and pale flavous thorax and legs. Some specimens have the first three joints of the antennæ flavous only. The elytral punctuation is, perhaps, still coarser and somewhat more regular than in *A. pectoralis*, but I am not able to find any other differences of importance, and it is possible that the present species is only a variety of the last-named; but, having three specimens before me which all agree with each other, I must look upon the species as distinct.

*Galerucella congoensis*, sp. n.

Very elongate, fuscous, finely pubescent, base of the head and the antennæ (the basal joint excepted) black; thorax obscurely fulvous with three dark spots, strongly narrowed at middle; elytra obscurely testaceous with three longitudinal costæ. Length, 5 lines.

Of very elongate and parallel shape, the head finely rugose and pubescent, the vertex black, with a longitudinal central groove, frontal tubercles transversely oblique, testaceous, labrum black; antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, fuscous, the first joint and the base of the second testaceous, third joint distinctly shorter than the fourth; thorax rather more than twice as broad as long, strongly constricted at the middle, the sides widened and rounded at the middle, the angles not produced, the basal margin oblique at each side, the surface with a central narrow groove from the base to the apex, obscurely fulvous, finely rugose and pubescent, the sides and the middle with an obscure fuscous spot, the former with a shallow depression; scutellum testaceous, rather longer than broad, its apex truncate, the surface pubescent; elytra obscurely testaceous, more or less stained with fuscous, the basal portion sometimes with a slight greenish tint and shining, the punctuation fine and extremely close, the pubescence fine and short, greyish, the disc with three more or less distinct and abbreviated longitudinal costæ, of which the sublateral one is more acutely raised than the others; underside and tibiæ black, the lower edges of the abdominal segment testaceous.

*Hab.* Congo; my collection.

This is one of the most elongate species of the genus, and differs principally in the shape of the thorax and the sculpture of the elytra from the three or four other African species known.

*Megalognatha balyi*, sp. n.

Bluish-black below, head and thorax fulvous, very finely punctured, scutellum black; elytra metallic-blue or green, closely and strongly punctured, and finely rugose. Length,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ – $4\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head impunctate, fulvous, the frontal elevations obsolete, labrum black; antennæ black, the two or three lower joints fulvous, third joint one-half shorter than the fourth, terminal joints shortened; thorax transverse, narrowed in front, the sides slightly, the posterior margin more strongly rounded, the posterior angles oblique, the surface extremely finely punctured, with two or three small and rather obsolete foveæ at the sides and at the base; scutellum black, broader than long, its apex acute; elytra metallic-green or blue, closely and strongly punctured, the interstices finely rugose, underside and legs bluish-black, tibiæ unarmed, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following three joints together; anterior coxal cavities open.

*Hab.* Hex River.

The last abdominal segment in the male has a short longitudinal impression at the middle. The species resembles somewhat *M. elegans*, Baly, but is twice as large, and differs in the colour of the undersides and many other details.

*Malacosoma fairmairei*, sp. n.

Fulvous, the antennæ, tibiæ, and tarsi black, thorax closely and strongly punctured, elytra rugose-punctate, black, the sutural, lateral, and apical margins flavous. Length, 3 lines.

Head broad and convex, fulvous, the vertex with a few fine punctures, frontal elevations oblique, clypeus flavous, labrum and mandibles stained with black; antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, entirely black, the third joint shorter than the fourth, terminal joints widened; thorax twice as broad as long, of equal width, the sides nearly straight, the angles not prominent but distinct; the surface rather convex, fulvous, closely and rather strongly punctured; scutellum broader than long; elytra rather more strongly punctured than the thorax, the punctuation very close, the interstices everywhere finely rugose, black, the lateral margins narrowly, the sutural one slightly more broadly, flavous, but the sutural band rather suddenly narrowed near the base; the apex also rather broadly flavous, underside and femora fulvous, tibiæ and tarsi black.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury.

Of this species I have seen two specimens, one from

the Cape Town Museum, and another received from Dr. Kraatz without particular locality; both specimens agree in every particular. The species is evidently closely allied to *M. flavomarginata*, Jac., also from Africa, but differs in the entirely black antennæ and tibiæ; also in the absence of the bluish tint of the elytra.

*Malacosoma basimarginata*, sp. n.

Fulvous, thorax subquadrate, impunctate, elytra closely and distinctly punctured and slightly rugose, the basal margin and the suture anteriorly greenish-black. Length,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  lines.

Head impunctate, the frontal tubercles elongate, joining the clypeus in front, carina absent; antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, rather robust, fulvous, the terminal joints often fuscous, third joint one-half longer than the second, but shorter than the fourth; thorax subquadrate, one-half broader than long, the sides nearly straight, the angles not prominent, the base with a narrow but distinct margin, the surface rather convex, impunctate, pale fulvous; scutellum fulvous or nearly black; elytra parallel, rather closely and distinctly punctured, the interstices somewhat wrinkled, the basal margin greenish-black, this colour extending also a little distance downwards at the shoulders and the suture, but variable in extent, and sometimes only indicated at the suture; legs rather robust, all the tibiæ with a minute spine, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following joints together; claws appendiculate, anterior cotyloid cavities open; prosternum very narrow, convex.

*Hab.* Zanzibar.

The underside in one specimen is piceous.

*Malacosoma suturalis*, sp. n.

Fulvous, the terminal joints of the antennæ and the breast black, thorax impunctate, broader than long, elytra very finely punctured, a sutural band widened posteriorly, piceous. Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head piceous at the vertex, impunctate, frontal elevations broad, transverse, carina acutely raised; antennæ scarcely extending to the middle of the elytra, fulvous, the third and fourth joints equal, the following joints slightly shorter and thickened; thorax one-half broader than long, rather convex, the sides rounded and rather suddenly widened at the middle, narrowed at base and apex, rather strongly deflexed anteriorly, the angles not produced; surface convex, very closely impressed with very minute punctures,



obscurely fulvous; scutellum black; elytra not more distinctly punctured than the thorax, convex, fulvous, the suture with a black pear-shaped band, widened posteriorly, breast black, legs and abdomen fulvous, prosternum convex between the coxæ, tibiæ with a minute spine.

*Hab.* Cape Town.

*Malacosoma discoidalis*, sp. n.

Black, thorax subquadrate, strongly punctured, elytra closely and distinctly punctured, flavous, the disc occupied by a broad piceous patch, leaving the base and apex flavous only. Length, 3 lines.

Head black, impunctate, the frontal elevations transverse, flattened, carina broad, palpi moderately thickened, the apical joint ovate; antennæ about half the length of the body, the third joint one-half shorter than the fourth, somewhat triangularly widened like the intermediate joints, apical joints elongate; thorax subquadrate, one-half broader than long, the sides and the posterior margin rather rounded, the surface black, shining, finely and rather closely punctured at the sides, the disc with an obsolete central smooth line; scutellum broader than long, black; elytra much more closely punctured than the thorax, also more distinctly so; the disc piceous, the base and apex flavous, this colour gradually widened towards the shoulders; underside and legs black, clothed with white pubescence; all the tibiæ mucronate; prosternum narrowly convex, anterior cotyloid cavities open.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury.

*Malacosoma* (?) *clypeata*, sp. n.

Testaceous, the head with one, the thorax with two piceous spots, impunctate, elytra greenish-æneous, very finely and closely punctured. Length,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Of elongate, parallel shape, the head broad, testaceous, the vertex with a large round piceous spot, frontal tubercles trigonate, broad, clypeus divided into two broadly-flattened lateral lobes, testaceous; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, pale fulvous, the third and intermediate joints rather triangularly widened, the apical three joints thin and elongate; thorax proportionately very long, scarcely broader than long, subquadrate, the lateral margins evenly rounded, more narrowed in front, anterior angles obsolete, slightly thickened, posterior ones oblique,

the posterior margin distinctly concave in front of the scutellum, the surface impunctate, testaceous, with an obscure piceous spot at each side; scutellum trigonate, black, impunctate; elytra very elongate and parallel, greenish-æneous, extremely finely and closely punctured with very obsolete traces of longitudinal sulci, and some very short hairs near the margins, their epipleuræ broad at the base, disappearing below the middle; underside and legs testaceous, the latter rather robust; all the tibiæ mucronate, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following two joints together; claws appendiculate, prosternum invisible between the coxæ, anterior cotyloid cavities open.

*Hab.* Hex River.

I place this species somewhat doubtfully in *Malacosoma* on account of being devoid of a convex and distinct prosternum, although the other structural characters peculiar to the genus are present. The shape of the thorax is, however, also distinct from any of its allies, as well as the peculiar structure of the clypeus, which may, however, belong to the male insect only. Should other similarly-structured species become known, a new genus is probably required for their reception.

#### SARDOIDES, n. g.

Body elongate, antennæ slender, filiform, thorax transverse, bifoveolate, elytral epipleuræ continued below the middle, legs slender, the tibiæ unarmed, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following joints together, claws appendiculate, anterior coxal cavities open.

The genus here proposed will enter Chapuis' eleventh group, the *Mimastrinæ*, on account of the unarmed tibiæ and open coxal cavities. The genus differs from *Mimastra* in having a more transversely-shaped and bifoveolate thorax instead of being transversely sulcate; the elytra have broader epipleuræ, and the first joint of the tarsi is much longer than in *Mimastra*. The present genus is founded on a species which has been long known to me as inhabiting the Cape, but seems not to have been described. It was submitted by me during Chapuis' life to this clever author's examination, and he also pronounced it as being a new genus entering the group mentioned above.

*Sardoides viridicollis*, sp. n.

Metallic-greenish, the antennæ and legs flavous, thorax impunctate, bifoveolate, elytra finely and sparingly punctured, flavous, the sutural and lateral margins metallic-green. Length, 2-3 lines.

Head broad, impunctate, eyes large, frontal elevations broad and transverse, clypeus deeply concave-emarginate, its anterior margin and labrum flavous; antennæ slender, nearly as long as the body, flavous, all the joints, with the exception of the small second one, of equal length; thorax one-half broader than long, narrowed at the base, the sides rounded and widened before the middle, the angles acute, slightly thickened, the surface with two deep foveæ, which are nearly united at the middle, impunctate, metallic-green; scutellum black; elytra rather depressed, finely punctured in irregular rows, flavous, narrowly margined with metallic dark green, their epipleuræ continued below the middle; legs slender, flavous, tibiæ unarmed, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following joints together, claws appendiculate, anterior cotyloid cavities open.

*Hab.* Cape Town, Natal.

*Sermyla maculata*, sp. n.

Oblong-ovate, testaceous, the head partly, the antennæ, tibiæ, and tarsi black, thorax impunctate, obscurely spotted with piceous, elytra extremely finely and closely punctured, an elongate spot on the shoulder, a round one near the scutellum, two connected spots below the middle and the apex black; breast and femora piceous. Length,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head rather broad, blackish at the vertex and between the eyes, the former impunctate, frontal elevations broadly oblique, clypeus black, finely rugose, its anterior margin nearly straight, labrum testaceous, palpi rather slender, piceous; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the third joint only slightly longer than the second, half the length of the third joint, the following joints of nearly equal length; thorax nearly three times broader than long, the sides deflexed, narrowed in front, the lateral margins nearly straight, posterior margin slightly rounded, anterior angles obliquely thickened; the surface impunctate, testaceous, with some obscure piceous spots near the base; scutellum triangular, piceous; elytra finely and extremely closely punctured, testaceous, their apex rather broadly rounded and slightly narrowed, an elongate spot on the shoulder, a round one

near the scutellum, another elongate spot below the middle gradually narrowed to half its size near the lateral margin and the apex of each elytron, black; breast and legs more or less piceous, abdomen obscurely testaceous; prosternum narrow but distinct and convex, metatarsus of the posterior legs longer than the following joints together.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury.

The single specimen before me differs in the distinct and convex, although very narrow, prosternum, resembling in that respect *Malacosoma*. I have, however, thought best to leave it at present in *Sermyla*.

*Sermyla (Malacosoma) suturalis*, Alld.

Black, the basal joints of the antennæ and the upper surface fulvous, head and thorax impunctate, elytra extremely finely and closely punctured, the extreme sutural margin and the scutellum black. Length, 3-4 lines.

Of elongate and convex shape, the head impunctate, fulvous, the frontal tubercles scarcely marked, slightly more distinct in the female, clypeus broad and also ill-defined; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the lower three joints fulvous, the second joint one-half the length of the third, this one shorter than the fourth joint; thorax twice as broad as long, the anterior margin straight, the sides rounded as well as the posterior margin, the anterior angles not produced, slightly thickened; the surface entirely impunctate, fulvous; scutellum black; elytra convex, not covering the pygidium, extremely closely and finely punctured, the suture very narrowly edged with black; underside black, the legs fulvous (the femora sometimes black), all the tibiæ mucronate, the first joint of the posterior tarsi longer than the following joints together, claws appendiculate, anterior coxal cavities closed.

*Hab.* Hex River, Africa; also Cape.

This species, of which I have given here a renewed description, has been placed by M. Allard in *Malacosoma*, where it cannot remain on account of the closed anterior cotyloid cavities. I have been enabled to examine a typical specimen, kindly given to me by M. Séverin. Three others I received from Mr. Péringuey.

*Platyxantha nigromarginata*, sp. n.

Flavous, the antennæ, the apex of the tibiæ and the tarsi, black, thorax bifoveolate with black lateral margins, elytra finely and closely punctured, flavous, narrowly margined with black.

VAR. Antennæ and legs flavous.

MAS. Antennæ as long as the body, the head with two deep excavations.

FEM. Antennæ shorter, the head normal.

Length, 3-4 lines.

MAS. Head broad, impunctate, the frontal tubercles strongly raised, broadly transverse, lower portion of face deeply hollowed out, the excavation divided by a central ridge, terminal joint of palpi acute; antennæ as long as the body, the basal joint flavous below, long and curved, the second one very short, moniliform, third joint longer than the fourth, the following joints slightly curved; thorax more than twice as broad as long, the lateral margin rounded and widened at the middle, narrowly black, as well as part of the posterior margin; the surface with two obsolete depressions, impunctate, fulvous or flavous; scutellum black; elytra very closely and finely punctured, the interstices very obsoletely longitudinally grooved, flavous, all the margins narrowly black, as well as the inner and outer margins of their epipleuræ; underside and legs flavous; the lower half of the tibiæ and the tarsi more or less black, tibiæ unarmed, anterior cotyloid cavities closed, the first joint of the posterior tarsi rather longer than the following joints together, last abdominal segment with lateral incisions, the median lobe broader than long.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury; also Delagoa Bay (Mrs. Monteiro).

*Platyxantha costatipennis*, sp. n.

Metallic-blue, the basal joint of the antennæ and the femora fulvous, thorax punctured, bifoveolate, elytra rugose-punctate, each with four narrow longitudinal costæ. Length, 3 lines.

Head impunctate, metallic-blue or green, the frontal tubercles strongly raised, clypeus æneous, palpi black, moderately thickened; antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the lower two joints fulvous, the basal joint long and slender, second one very short, third and fourth equal, rather elongate, the following joints slightly shorter and somewhat thickened; thorax twice as broad as long, the lateral margins rounded at the middle, narrowed at the base, the surface metallic-blue or green, bifoveolate, the



depressions closely punctured; scutellum dark blue; elytra narrowly parallel, closely rugose-punctate, metallic-green, their epipleuræ purplish, the punctures interrupted by four narrow smooth longitudinal costæ, separated at equal distances; underside metallic-blue, femora fulvous, the lower part of the tibiæ and the tarsi black, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following two joints together.

*Hab.* Tabora, Africa.

Of this species, not difficult to recognize, I possess two apparently female specimens. The other sex is unknown to me, and may possibly be without elytral costæ.

*Platyxantha discoidalis*, sp. n.

Fulvous, thorax transverse, impunctate, transversely sulcate, elytra extremely finely and sparingly punctured, fulvous, the disc greenish-black. Length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head impunctate, reddish-fulvous, frontal elevations broadly transverse, clypeus acutely triangularly raised, palpi robust, the terminal joint very short and conical; antennæ extending to two-thirds the length of the elytra, pale fulvous, the first joint elongate, the second one short, the third and fourth equal, as long as the first joint, following joints shorter; thorax twice as broad as long, slightly narrowed at the base, the sides rounded before the middle, the angles slightly thickened, not produced, the disc with two scarcely interrupted shallow sulcations, minutely granulate and scarcely perceptibly punctured, reddish-fulvous; scutellum fulvous, trigonate, impunctate; elytra with the basal portion distinctly raised, the shoulders rather prominent, the surface minutely granulate, very sparingly and finely punctured, the base and the apex reddish fulvous, the middle of the disc occupied by a broad greenish-black band; epipleuræ broad, extending to the apex, legs unarmed, fulvous like the undersurface; the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following two joints together, claws appendiculate, anterior cotyloid cavities closed.

*Hab.* Sierra Leone.

Of this species, two specimens are contained in my collection; one, a male, has the intermediate joints of the antennæ very robust, but the terminal ones are wanting; the last abdominal segment has the usual lateral incisions; the other specimen has thinner antennæ, and is a female. The species is smaller than most of its congeners.

*Platyxantha intermedia*, sp. n.

Fulvous, the antennæ fuscous, thorax transversely sulcate, the sides metallic-greenish, elytra metallic bright green, closely and strongly punctured, and slightly rugose. Length,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lines.

Head impunctate, fulvous, the vertex with a pale purplish gloss, frontal elevations narrowly transverse, strongly raised, lower portion of face paler; antennæ two-thirds the length of the elytra, nearly black, pubescent, the third and fourth joints equal; thorax twice as broad as long, of equal width, the sides narrowed at the base, rounded before the middle; the surface with two shallow foveæ, minutely granulate and finely punctured near the anterior angles, the sides with a narrow metallic-greenish band which gradually widens towards the anterior angles; scutellum black; elytra closely and strongly punctured, the interspaces not broader than the punctures, somewhat rugose, with traces of longitudinal smooth narrow lines or costæ here and there; underside and legs fulvous, tibiæ unarmed, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following joints together.

*Hab.* Delagoa Bay.

The single, apparently female, specimen contained in my collection has partly the coloration of the two preceding species, but is smaller, and differs in many details.

*Monolepta octomaculata*, sp. n.

Fulvous, the antennæ (the basal joint excepted), the breast, and the legs black, thorax transverse, sparingly punctured, elytra very minutely punctured, fulvous, each with four small black spots (1, 1, 2). Length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Head impunctate, fulvous, frontal tubercles not strongly raised, labrum and palpi black; antennæ not extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the basal joint fulvous, the second and third joints small, equal, third and fourth also of equal length, terminal joints slightly shorter; thorax scarcely twice as broad as long, the sides narrowed towards the apex, rounded near the base; the posterior margin also rounded; the surface very minutely and rather closely punctured, fulvous; scutellum black; elytra microscopically punctured and very finely wrinkled, fulvous, a small spot on the shoulder, another at the sides near the middle, and two spots below the latter placed obliquely transverse, black, the extreme apical angle also of the same colour; elytral epipleuræ broad at the base, disappearing below the middle, breast and legs black, the anterior femora more or less fulvous.

*Hab.* Natal.

*Candezea mashuana*, sp. n.

Pale flavous, the terminal joints of the antennæ and the tibiæ and tarsi black, thorax impunctate, elytra extremely minutely and closely punctured. Length,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lines.

Of convex but nearly parallel shape, pale yellowish; the head impunctate, without any frontal elevations, penultimate joint of the palpi incrassate; antennæ long and slender, extending to the middle of the elytra, the lower four joints fulvous, the others black, the base of each joint also flavous, third joint one-half longer than the second; thorax one-half broader than long, the sides rounded as well as the posterior margin, the surface entirely impunctate; scutellum triangular; elytra extremely closely and finely punctured, the interstices very minutely wrinkled; elytral epipleuræ continued below the middle, tibiæ and tarsi black, the first joint of the posterior tarsi half the length of the tibiæ.

*Hab.* Mashunaland, Salisbury.

*Candezea femorata*, sp. n.

Black; the head, antennæ, thorax, elytra, and the tibiæ and tarsi flavous, thorax nearly impunctate, elytra very finely punctured. Length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 lines.

Head broad and short, impunctate, fulvous, frontal tubercles distinct, lower portion of face convex, testaceous, labrum piceous; antennæ slender, flavous, as long as the body, the basal joint very long, the third nearly one-half shorter than the fourth, terminal joint black at the apex; thorax rather more than twice as broad as long, the sides nearly straight, the anterior angles oblique, the posterior margin sinuate, the surface scarcely perceptibly punctured, fulvous; scutellum black; elytra convex, fulvous, very finely and closely punctured, their epipleuræ continued below the middle; underside and femora black, tibiæ and tarsi flavous, the first joint of the posterior tarsi nearly half the length of the tibia, anterior cotyloid cavities closed.

*Hab.* Natal.

At once distinguished from *C. flaveola*, Gerst., by the colour of the underside, scutellum, and femora.

*Buphonida africana*, sp. n.

Black, finely pubescent, head and thorax rugose, elytra dark violaceous, pubescent, more finely rugosely punctured than the head and thorax, last abdominal segment flavous. Length, 2–3 lines.

Of elongate parallel shape, the head broad, strongly rugose, the frontal elevations transverse, smooth and shining, rest of the head finely pubescent; antennæ extending to the middle of the elytra, black, the terminal joints gradually and slightly widened, the third joint shorter than the fourth but one-half longer than the second joint; thorax short, narrower at the base than at the apex, the angles with a small ring-shaped tubercle containing a single hair, the rest of the surface strongly rugose and sparingly pubescent, anterior margin straight, posterior margin slightly sinuate at the middle; scutellum broad, black, pubescent; elytra opaque violaceous, clothed with thin greyish pubescence, finely rugosely punctured throughout, the apex of each elytron rounded, their epipleuræ very narrow; underside and apex black, the last abdominal segment flavous, tibiæ unarmed, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the three following joints, claws bifid, anterior coxal cavities closed.

*Hab.* Africa, Sierra Leone.

In this species, the first known from Africa, the structural characters of *Buphonida* are all present, but the thorax is not quite so short or so transversely sulcate as is the case in the typical forms from India; nevertheless, I think the species may well be included in the genus, the broad head especially suggesting this as its proper place. The female is considerably larger and broader than the male insect.

*Cynorta* (?) *modesta*, sp. n.

Obscurely testaceous, antennæ (the basal joints excepted), the breast and the apex of the tibiæ, as well as the tarsi, black; thorax subquadrate without depression, elytra minutely punctured, with traces of longitudinal sulci (♀). Length, 3-3½ lines.

Head broad, impunctate, slightly fulvous, the frontal tubercles transverse, strongly raised, clypeus triangular, acutely raised, palpi long and slender; antennæ nearly as long as the body, black, the lower three joints and the extreme base of the following ones flavous, third joint much shorter than the fourth; thorax scarcely broader than long, all the margins nearly straight, all the angles acute, the surface without depressions, very sparingly and scarcely perceptibly punctured; scutellum with its apex nearly truncate; elytra parallel, not depressed below the base, testaceous, very finely and closely punctured; underside and legs flavous, the breast, the extreme apex of the tibiæ and the tarsi blackish, tibiæ with a

small spine, the first joint of the posterior tarsi as long as the following two joints together, claws appendiculate, anterior cotyloid cavities closed, the last abdominal segment divided into two deeply hollowed and acutely pointed lobes, the preceding segment with a longitudinal groove.

*Hab.* Salisbury, Mashunaland.

Female with the elytra obsoletely longitudinally sulcate at the sides, the underside black, the last two abdominal segments flavous, simple.

I have placed this species provisionally in *Cynorta* on account of the subquadrate thorax, the armed tibiæ, and the closed coxal cavities. The genus has, however, not previously been recorded from Africa, and the thorax in this insect is devoid of any foveæ usually found in *Cynorta*. This, however, does not seem of sufficient importance for the erection of another genus.

*Malaxia femorata*, sp. n.

Black, the basal joints of the antennæ below, the face, the apex of the femora and the tibiæ more or less flavous, thorax finely rugose, elytra bright green, finely rugose, and clothed with white pubescence. Length,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lines.

Head finely rugose, the vertex black, the lower portion of the face flavous, clypeus transversely swollen; antennæ two-thirds the length of the body, black, the three or four lower joints flavous below, third and fourth joints equal; thorax twice as broad as long, of equal width, the posterior angles rather obliquely shaped; the surface sculptured like the thorax, black, clothed with some fine yellowish pubescence, the sides obsoletely depressed, lateral margins nearly straight; scutellum black, elytra finely rugose, green, clothed with whitish pubescence, the extreme sides of a more brassy or golden tint; underside and the base of the femora black, legs flavous, the anterior tibiæ and tarsi more or less fuscous.

*Hab.* South Africa (?)

This species, of which I received two specimens from Mr. Péringuey without locality, differs from *M. aurolimbata*, All., in the colour of the thorax, which is described as fulvous with three black spots, but seems otherwise closely allied. M. Allard, also, refers to his species, *M. alluaudi*, but I am not able to find a species described by that name. *M. nigricollis*, All., has differently coloured antennæ and elytra, and *M. porraceipennis*, All., is



described with a fulvous thorax and costate elytra. Another species from Africa, *M. vernalis*, All., is entirely fulvous with the exception of the elytra.

NOTE.

GABONIA, Jac. (Entomologist, 1893).

This name, having already been used several times in Zoology, must be changed; I, therefore, alter it to *Jamesonia*, in memory of the late distinguished naturalist to the Stanley Expedition.